METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING NETWORK DATA PACKETS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for processing network data packets using a hardware
engine is provided. The system includes, a TCP Table manager
for managing a TCP connection's state information by providing

10 a pool of buffers used for various data structures and
providing plural registers and timer functions to various
system sub-modules. The TCP Table manager maintains a free
list of data structures that are used for storage of TCP
connection state and for torage of TCP transfer requests. The

15 system also includes an outbound TCP processor that takes
requests from a host to transmit TCP data and an inbound IP
fragment processor that receives IP datagram fragments and
manages the reassembly of in-process datagrams. The IP
fragment processor includes an input processor for parsing

20 data packet header information, assembling datagrams, and
interfacing with an output processor and a return processor.